

# Wisconsin Farm to School

Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection

April 22, 2015 | Happy Earth Day

In today's Wisconsin Farm to School newsletter, you will find:

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- [Tools and Resources](#)
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## THE FARM *to* SCHOOL CENSUS

### General updates

**Second Bi-Annual Farm to School Census - MAKE SURE YOUR SCHOOLS IS COUNTED!**

The USDA Farm to School Census is a crucial tool for gathering information about state of the farm to school movement. The first census was conducted in 2013, and USDA is now

seeking updated information through the 2015 USDA Farm to School Census. The Census questionnaire was **distributed to school districts through state agencies** the week of March 16. School district submissions must be received by May 29, 2015.

### Is Your School a Green and Healthy School?

Farm to School participants, your work connecting students with healthy and local food options is a great way to get involved with the Green & Healthy Schools Wisconsin (GHSW) program. It's a "choose your own adventure" opportunity; you can document whatever you are doing to make your school more green, healthy, and sustainable on their new and improved online application.

GHSW will connect you with workshops, grant opportunities, the Cool Choices game, and lots of resources. With four levels of recognition and nine focus areas, they'll support you in meeting your school's individual goals. The highest achieving schools each year are considered for nomination to the U.S. Department of Education as possible Green Ribbon Schools. Whether you are reducing energy costs, increasing healthy lunch choices, or taking learning outdoors, there is a place for you. For more information, go to [www.GHSWisconsin.org](http://www.GHSWisconsin.org), or contact the Green & Healthy Schools Coordinator, Cindy Koepke, at [DNRGHSWisconsin@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DNRGHSWisconsin@wisconsin.gov) or 608-267-7622.

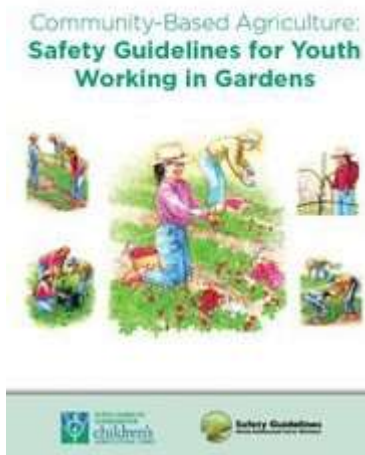


## Tools and Resources



### It's Spring Planting Time!

[Check out this great seed time-lapse](#) to see what happens when you plant a seed.



### Cultivate Safety in Your School Garden

In non-agricultural industries, there are regulations and work standards that indicate appropriate work for both adults and children. In agriculture, the standards and regulations are different, and may not apply on a farm or garden. Parents/supervisors often assign jobs based on their past practices, need for “extra hands” to get the job done, and preferences of the child and/or adult. The North American Guidelines for Children’s Agricultural Tasks (NAGCAT) were developed at the request of parents to assist them with assigning safe and appropriate jobs to children and youth. These guidelines can also assist adults with teaching youth how to do a job safely.

## Wisconsin Farm to School in the news

### **Plymouth high school lunch includes pork raised by Plymouth ag students**

Meat from two Plymouth High Schools pigs was included in hot ham and cheese sandwiches, bacon cheeseburgers, BBQ pork sandwiches and pork tacos in March, as well as roasted pork sliders earlier this month at the high school. It also will be used in Ground Pork Stuffed Peppers on April 16 and in meatloaf in May.



[Click here](#) to read more!

Photo submitted by Plymouth School District

## Farm to School Funding Opportunities

### **Update: Pilot Project for Unprocessed Fruit and Vegetables**

Updated vendor [application forms](#) for the USDA’s [Pilot Project for the Procurement of Unprocessed Fruits and Vegetables](#) are now available on the Agricultural Marketing Services website. More information about the pilot project can be found on the [AMS website](#).

### **Upcoming deadline for federal food and farm programs**

Planting season is upon us, which means deadlines for federal farm and food grant programs are too! For farmers, ranchers, and groups who work with producers, the next

few months are critical for successfully completing these applications on time. [National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition](#) has compiled a list of upcoming deadlines for federal food and farm grant applications and grant assistance workshops. If you farm or work with farmers, consult [this list](#) and share with those you know.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, contact DATCP's Sarah Elliott at 608-224-5046 or [sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov](mailto:sarah.elliott@wisconsin.gov).



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